

E-3224 - E-3233
926-900 Light St. (West side)
Baltimore, Md.
Private access

1845-1855

This group of houses located along the west side of the 900 block of Light St. were originally all built as two story plus attic, two bay wide brick houses with gable roofs, much like the houses to the west along Hamburg and Henrietta Streets. Many, however, have since been enlarged to a full three stories in height and now have shed roofs and bracketed cornices. Most currently serve a mixed commercial/residential use. The houses located in the southern half of the block, south of Wheeling St. (916-926 Light St.) were built by John S. Gittings as part of his development of the unit block of Hamburg St.; those houses located to the north of Wheeling St. (900-914 Light St.) were built by a variety of individual owners.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

902-904 Light St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE
Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This pair of three story, two bay brick buildings with shed roofs and bracketed cornice represent enlargements of the original gable roofed houses that were built on this site in the late 1840's, and which formed a group of such houses extending along this side of Light St. The first floors of both houses have been converted into shop-fronts.

The houses are three stories in height. 902 Light St. is about 15' wide, 904 Light St. is about 14' wide, and both occupy lots 80 1/2' deep. 902 Light St. has a one story rear addition, and 904 Light St. has a two story rear addition, that extend all the way to the end of the lots. The houses are constructed in running bond. The shed roofs are capped by two separate wooden cornices that are, however, identical in form. Each cornice consists of a deeply projecting crown molding, the underside of which is decorated with scroll-sawed motifs, bordered by a row of quarter-round carvings and supported by three carved wooden brackets. The brackets connect the cornice to a lower molding strip which is also decorated with a row of quarter-round carvings, thus forming a plain brick frieze area. 902 Light St. has a rear end chimney located at the western end of its rear addition, and 904 Light St. has a rear end chimney located along the south side of its rear addition. 904 Light St. has several rows of late Victorian, decorative brickwork on its facade, but this was not original to the house.

The second floor window openings of both houses have segmentally arched brick lintels with scroll-sawed tympanums; the third floor windows have no lintels. All of the sills are wood. At 902 Light St. all of the windows are filled with the original 2/2 double hung sash; at 904 Light St. the windows are filled with 1/1 double hung sash. Both houses have had their first floors converted into shop-fronts. At 902 Light St. a multi-paned glass and panel door, set beneath a single light transom, is recessed beneath the southernmost bay. The door is flanked by a two-sided projecting plate glass shop window set on a wooden base. Three wide rectangular glass panels are set above the shop window. The entire store-front area is surmounted by a wooden cornice consisting of a projecting crown molding and a plain, shallow frieze area. At 904 Light St. the door is centrally located between two tall, vertical plate glass windows. The entire first floor area has been covered with an artificial wood paneling. There is no cornice. The door is a late Victorian glass and panel type. The entrances are reached by one wide stone step.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1857-58

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John North of A

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These houses are significant as being representative of a large group of three story, gable-roofed houses built in the 1840's and 1850's to serve as combination residential/commercial structures, but which were remodeled after the Civil War in the currently fashionable Victorian style with the front roof gable being obscured by a deep, added bracketed cornice. The houses seem always to have served as combination residences/store-fronts, with the first floor area serving as the store-front and the family living on the two floor above. The builder of the houses, John North, operated as a wood dealer at 902 Light St. in the late 1850's and 1860's. In the 1870's he is listed as a mariner.¹ North sold 904 Light St. to a John S. Mitchell in 1859.¹ Mitchell was a huckster. The second owner of 904 Light St. was a Vincent R. Jackson, who operated as a druggist here in the late 1860's and early 1870's. The third owner, a Peter Fisher, had a shoe-making shop at this location in the late 1870's.²

¹ Baltimore City Directory, 1858-59, 1874; Baltimore City Land REcords, LiberGES 187, Folio 467

² B.C.D., 1864, 1868-69, 1876

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION _____

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

4/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Ruxton

Maryland 21204

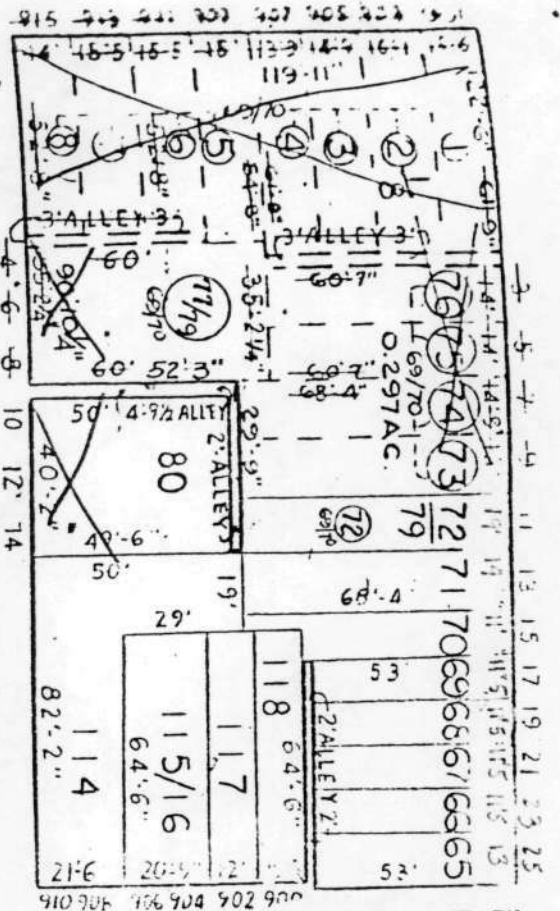
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

HENRIETTA

ST.

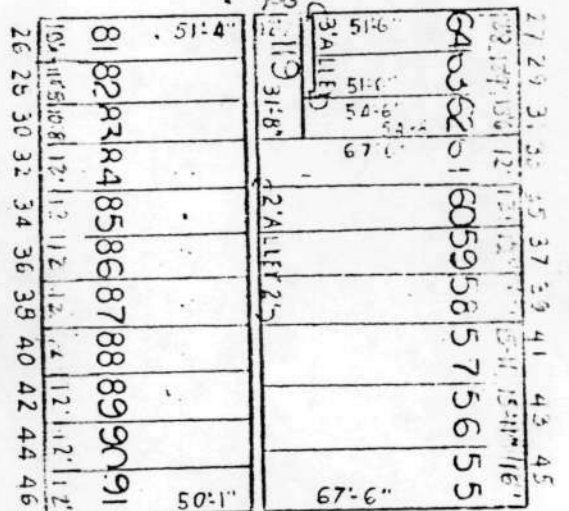


20'

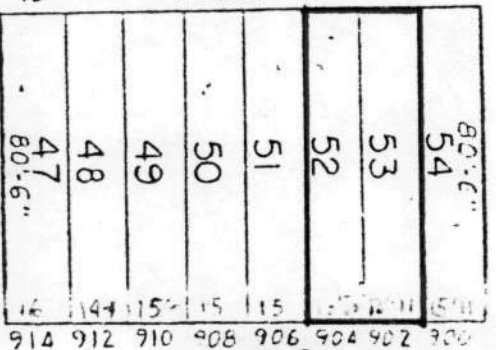
WHEELING 40'

25'

COURT



ALLEY



B-3232
902-904 Light Street
Block 0918 Lots 053-052
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3232 902-904 Light St.

M.E.H. 5/79

East elevation